

MUSCICAPA USSHERI, sp. n.

Adult. General colour above light brown, slightly more fulvescent brown on the lower back and rump; lesser and median wing-coverts a little more ashy than the back; greater coverts, primary-coverts, and quills dusky brown, externally edged with the same brown as the back; tail-feathers dusky brown, externally edged with brown like the back, and very narrowly fringed with whitish along the tip and near the end of the inner web; nasal plumes and lores dull white, extending above the fore part of the eye so as to form a slight superciliary streak; eyelid and feathers below the eye dull white; the ear-coverts very light brown with dull whitish shaft-lines; cheeks and throat buffy white, with a tinge of fawn-colour on the fore neck; breast, abdomen, and under tail-coverts white, the latter with light-brown centres; sides of breast, flanks and thighs light brown tinged with fawn-colour; under wing-coverts and axillaries ochreous buff; quills dusky below, whitish along the edge of the inner web; bill horn-brown, whitish at the base of the lower mandible. Total length 5 inches, culmen 0.55, wing 2.8, tail 2.2, tarsus 0.85.

Hab. Abokobi, Gold Coast, Feb. 1880.

This species has the appearance of an *Erythrosterna*; but the colour of its tail separates it from any of the species with which I am acquainted; otherwise it comes into the "Key to the Species" of *Muscicapa* in my 'Catalogue' (vol. iv. p. 150) as follows:—

- a. With no white bar on the wing and with no white at base of tail.
 - a'. Breast white, with brown streaks &c.
 - a". Ashy brown &c. *grisola*, p. 151.
 - b". Dark brown &c. *griseisticta*, p. 153.
 - ℳ. Breast uniform, without streaks.
 - c". General colour above brown, ashy grey or slate-colour: size large, wing 2.8 to 3.1 inches.
 - a". Bill horn-brown, the base of the lower mandible yellowish white.
 - a⁴. Under wing-coverts and axillaries brown; upper surface brown *aquatica*, p. 154.
 - ℳ⁴. Under wing-coverts and axillaries ochreous buff; upper surface brown *ussheri*, sp. nov.

12. Notes on Birds collected in the Argentine Republic. By E. W. WHITE, F.Z.S. With Notes by P. L. SCLATER, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S.

[Received June 12, 1882.]

In travelling over the greater part of this vast Republic, I have found the difficulties and dangers great, and the distances to be surmounted, from one hunting-ground to another, immense. Not only so, but the naturalist here, unlike his brother in Europe, receives no encouragement, enjoys no facilities, and is obliged to

rely upon his own resources in a way that renders collecting very arduous, besides being at times an object of suspicion. Owing to my bad state of health, I did not commence operations upon the avifauna of this part of the Neotropical region until the year 1880; and then my trips to Oran, Misiones, and other promising districts were, from one cause and another, generally so hurried, that, as I was unable to remain in desirable spots even for a few days, much less through the season (a step so essential to the observation of the habits of birds), not only will my notes be characterized by somewhat of baldness, but certain families, such as the Alcedinidæ, will be found entirely, and others, such as the Strigidæ, but poorly represented, which undesirable result has been further contributed to by the loss of some of my manuscripts.

It is not to be inferred from this, however, that many species of these families have not come under my observation, but simply that as yet they form no part of my private collection. However, to the remarks and data herewith furnished I have paid much attention to secure accuracy, and I indulge in the hope that they will be considered of some value. With regard to the nomenclature, in which I have followed the 'Nomenclator Avium Neotropicalium' of Messrs. Sclater and Salvin, I anticipate there will be found few inaccuracies of any import, although Buenos Aires does not possess the facilities which London enjoys for the accurate determination of species.

My earnest desire is to be able before long to supplement the present with additional notes, until this country shall be pretty well exhausted of its feathery inhabitants.

Buenos Aires, May 5, 1882.

[I have examined several series of Mr. White's birds, and have great pleasure in testifying to the general accuracy of his determinations. But, as he has given me full authority over his MS., I have thought it right to add a few remarks in certain cases when I have not seen specimens and there is some cause to doubt. These remarks are indicated by my initials.—P. L. S.]

London, June 12, 1882.]

1. *TURDUS LEUCOMELAS*, Vieill.

♂. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 23, 1881.

♀. Santo Tomé, Corrientes, Arg. Rep., May 11, 1881.

♀. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 20, 1881.

Iris dark brown.

Shot in the woods around the old Jesuit ruins. These birds are plentiful all over Misiones, and are often kept as cage-birds, as they have a pleasant whistle.

2. *TURDUS RUFIVENTRIS*, Vieill.

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 18, 1880.

Iris sepia.

During my sojourn in Oran I did not meet with many of this species; but in the dense woods of Misiones they are abundant; and

having shot and wounded one, I found its cries attract other birds, so that I had no difficulty in securing seven or eight other desirable species, whereas before they would not show themselves.

3. *TURDUS FUSCATER*, Lafr. et d'Orb.

♂. City of Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Aug. 7, 1880.

♀. Fuerte de Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 9, 1880.

Iris brown.

I have noticed this bird in the provinces of Mendoza, San Juan, San Luis, Cordova, and Catamarca, where it is much esteemed as a cage-bird on account of its beautiful whistle. In Mendoza it goes by the name of Sorsal, in Catamarca and Cordova by that of Merlo, and in Andalgalá Chocoyno; in the last mentioned place it is seen generally about the hedges round the town. In Catamarca, however, it is only observed during winter and spring. The Italians settled in the town of Mendoza are very fond of its flesh, and are rapidly exterminating it in that neighbourhood.

4. *MIMUS TRIURUS*, Vieill.

♀. Flores, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Jan. 24, 1882.

Iris stone-colour.

This bird is rare near Buenos Aires.

5. *MIMUS CALANDRIA* (Lafr. et d'Orb.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 9, 1880.

♀. San José de Flores, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., April 1, 1881.

The native name of this bird, which is found all over the Republic, is Calandria. It delights to frequent shrubby plains, flying from the top of one tree to another. This is a song-bird of great capacity, having a great range of notes, being able to vary them so that it is mistaken for other birds. The grape-crops in Andalgalá suffer much from the ravages of this bird. The breeding-season in Buenos Aires lasts from October to the end of January.

The nest, which is built of twigs and neatly lined with horsehair, has an exterior height of 5 to 6 inches and an exterior diameter of from 4 to 5 inches, with a depth of about 4 inches in the interior cup. Four eggs are laid in a clutch. The ground-colour is a light blue, thickly sprinkled with small rufous spots throughout. Measurement: axis 27 millim., diam. 20 millim.

6. *POLIOPTILA DUMICOLA* (Vieill.).

♂ and ♀. Monte Grande, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Jan. 2, 1881.

Iris sepia.

I found this bird tolerably abundant amongst the tala groves at Monte Grande.

7. *TROGLODYTES FURVUS* (Gm.).

♂ and ♀. San José de Flores, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., March 23, 1881.

Iris dark.

This bird is exceedingly abundant in the province of Buenos Aires, but it is also met with nearly all over the Republic. Builds a nest of twigs and dry grass, lined usually with horsehair, in holes in the walls of barns and outhouses. I have not unfrequently found the eggs of this bird in old nests of *Furnarius rufus*, and sometimes even in the nest of *Zonotrichia pileata*, under a thistle in the campo.

The egg is of a pinkish ground, thickly sprinkled with minute rufous spots, which are concentrated in a crown around the blunt end.

Measurements: axis 19 millim., diam. 14 millim.

8. *ANTHUS CORRENDERA* (Vieill.).

2 ♂ and 1 ♀. San José de Flores, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Aug. 26, 1881.

Iris dark.

This bird is abundant at this season of the year in low-lying swampy pastures, where the grass is high. Upon being disturbed they start up high into the air, very much like an English lark, singing all the while very prettily, and remain poised on the wing. On the approach of a foot-passenger they crouch close to the ground, allowing the foot almost to tread upon them; and as they are of its exact colour, they are difficult to see. This habit leads the observant country urchins to compass the destruction of these poor birds, which they do by breaking off a piece of fencing wire, about a yard and a half long, turning it up at the ends, seizing it by one extremity, whirling it round their heads, all the while approaching the feathered songsters, and then suddenly launching the chain shot, which rarely misses its errand.

9. *PARULA PITIAYUMI* (Vieill.).

♂. Sierras de Totoral, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Aug. 22, 1880.

♂. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 7, 1881.

Iris dark.

In the sierras of Totoral I met with this bird, usually in the thick parts of the woods; yet it was not very common. It has a nice lively chirp and is very quick in its movements. But in Misiones I found it very abundant in the dense woods.

10. *GEOTHLYPIS VELATA* (Vieill.).

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 18, 1880.

Iris sepia.

I shot this bird out in the open country, where it was hopping about in the thickest part of some low bushes near a running stream.

11. *BASILEUTERUS VERMIVORUS* (Vieill.).

♂. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 7, 1881.

Iris dark.

This bird is not at all uncommon in the woods of Misiones.

12. *SETOPHAGA BRUNNEICEPS*, Lafr. et d'Orb.

♂. Sierras de Totoral, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., July 30, 1880.

♀. " " " " July 24, 1880.

This rather scarce bird, very quick in its movements and difficult to shoot, was bagged on the sierras of Totoral as it was skipping about amongst the branches very much like the Tits of England.

[The occurrence of this species in the Argentine Republic is quite new to me. Mr. White's skins agree with Bolivian specimens.—P. L. S.]

13. *HYLOPHILUS PÆCILONOTUS* (Max.).

♂. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 10, 1881.

Iris dark.

Not uncommon in Misiones.

[Not known to me from any part of the Argentine Republic.—P. L. S.]

14. *CYCLORHIS VIRIDIS* (Vieill.).

♂. Punta Lara, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 21, 1881.

♀. " " " " Feb. 23, 1881.

Iris brick-red.

This bird I have met with plentifully in many parts of the Republic.

15. *PROGNE PURPUREA* (Linn.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 28, 1880.

Iris sepia.

I only obtained one of these birds.

16. *PROGNE CHALYBEA* (Gm.).

♂. Flores, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Dec. 6, 1881.

Iris dark.

This bird is very common in the neighbourhood of Buenos Aires, where it builds under the eaves of the houses; the nest is low, entirely open, and built on a foundation of mud, which when dry is covered with straw and then lined with feathers and wool. Three perfectly white and pear-shaped eggs in a clutch. Axis 23 millim., diam. 17 millim.

17. *PROGNE TAPERA* (Linn.).

♂. Monte Grande, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Jan. 4, 1881.

♀. Pacheco, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., March 12, 1881.

Iris dark brown.

Is a very common bird in the province of Buenos Aires. Its nest is composed of twigs and dry grass; but I do not think it is particular as to the locality in which it builds.

18. *PETROCHELIDON PYRRHONOTA* (Vieill.).

♂. Flores, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Dec. 11, 1881.

Iris dark.

I shot this bird when on the wing quite by accident, as it was so

high up that I could not mark any difference between it and numbers of *Progne tapera* flying about.

It is the only one of this species that I have seen in Buenos Aires.

19. *HIRUNDO LEUCORRHOA*, Vieill.

♂. Santo Tomé, Corrientes, Arg. Rep., May 16, 1881.

Iris dark.

I found this species very abundant near Santo Tomé; my specimen I obtained when numbers of them were flying over a small lagoon close to the river Itacua.

20. *ATTICORA CYANOLEUCA* (Vieill.).

♂. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 18, 1881.

♀. Catamarca, Aug. 5, 1880.

This pretty little bird is found abundantly distributed over the campos. It builds its nest within the burrows of the Biscacha (*Lagostomus trichodactylus*); and half a dozen more may be seen at a time flying round their holes.

21. *COTILE FUCATA* (Temm.).

♂. Santo Tomé, Corrientes, Arg. Rep., May 16, 1881.

Iris dark.

Several of these birds I saw flying about with the *Hirundo leucorrhoa* near the Itacua.

22. *EUPHONIA CHLOROTICA* (Linn.).

♂. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 28, 1881.

♀. Fuerte de Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 20, 1880.

Iris dark.

At Concepcion, in the old Jesuit ruins, I saw three or four of these pretty little birds on a giant cactus some 40 or 50 feet high, where they were busy pecking the ripe pear-like fruit. I obtained one male and two females; but they were not common.

23. *TANAGRA STRIATA* (Gm.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 10, 1880.

♀. Punta Lara, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 24, 1881.

Iris brown.

I have found this bird distributed over nearly all the Republic. I obtained a specimen of this bird the feathers of which in the left wing were in a peculiar abnormal condition.

24. *TANAGRA SAYACA*, Wied.

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 18, 1880.

♀. " " " " Nov. 12, 1880.

♂. Punta Lara, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 23, 1881.

Iris sepia.

This species is also common over most of the Republic. In Oran they are found abundantly in the orange-groves, and utter usually only a few low notes that are very misleading as to their where-

abouts. I have obtained specimens both in Oran and Buenos Aires; but they vary a good deal—the Oran birds being smaller and the glossy colour a distinct blue, whereas in the Buenos-Aires bird it is green; and, moreover, the habits of the birds also seem to vary slightly.

[I am a little doubtful whether Mr. White's specimens really belong to the true *T. sayaca*; but it is very difficult to determine accurately the various races of this group of Tanagers. —P. L. S.]

25. *STEPHANOPHORUS LEUCOCEPHALUS* (Vieill.).

♂. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 27, 1881.

This bird is not uncommon in Misiones, where it frequents the outside of thickets near the open, or sometimes the open itself, amongst large weeds, on the seed-pods of which it feeds, but is rarely found in dense woods.

26. *TRICHOThRAUPIS QUADRICOLOR* (Vieill.).

♂. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 23, 1881.

♀. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 7, 1881.

Iris dark.

I shot these birds in the dense forest.

27. *TACHYPHONUS CRISTATUS* (Gm.).

♂. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 6, 1881.

Iris dark.

An immature specimen, with no white mark under the throat, as is usual in the adult, the whole bird being of a decided ferruginous brown, slightly darker on the back and the top of the head. I obtained my specimen in the forest on the banks of the river Uruguay.

[I have never seen examples of this species from so far south.—P. L. S.]

28. *ARREMON D'ORBIGNII*, Schl.

♂. Sierras de Totoral, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., July 29, 1880.

Iris light blue.

Met with on the outskirts of the woods, but seldom within them.

[One of Mr. White's skins in my collection is marked *A. polionotus*, Bp. It is, however, probably *A. d'orbignii*, mihi, although I have no Bolivian skins for comparison.—P. L. S.]

29. *SALTATOR SUPERCILIARIS* (Spix).

♂ ♀. Santo Tomé, Corrientes, Arg. Rep., May 11, 1881.

Iris wood-brown.

Not uncommon at Santo Tomé.

30. *SALTATOR CÆRULESCENS*, Vieill.

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 6, 1880.

♀. " " " " Nov. 13, 1880.

Iris sepia.

I found these birds very abundant in Oran.

31. *SALTATOR AURANTHIROSTRIS*, Vieill.

♂. Fuerte de Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 8, 1880.

♀. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 9, 1880.

Iris sepia.

Not uncommon at Andalgala.

32. *PHEUCTICUS AUREIVENTRIS* (Lafr. et d'Orb.).

♂ ♀. Campo Santo, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 29, 1880.

Iris sepia.

I saw three or four of these birds about, and shot a brace, in the dense and lofty forest on the banks of the Mojotoro.

33. *GUIRACA CYANEA* (Linn.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 22, 1880.

♀. " " " Sept. 8, 1880.

Iris brown.

Not uncommon around Andalgala in hedges and thickets. The male is of a deep blue, and the female a drab.

34. *SPERMOPHILA CÆRULESCENS*, Vieill.

♂. Flores, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Nov. 26, 1881.

♀. " " " Dec. 15, 1881.

Iris dark brown.

This bird, which is very quick in its movements, builds a very delicate little nest, of a deep but very round cup-shape, formed of interlaced horsehair, so open and thin as to be seen through. It is abundant in the orchard trees around Buenos Aires, but sometimes may be seen pendent from maize-stalks. It is possessed of a nice song, and breeds very late, indeed quite up to the beginning of autumn. It lays three eggs in a clutch, of a pale bluish-green, mottled with small sepia blotches and spots, which, occurring more thickly in a central band, leave the ends somewhat free.

Meas.: axis 18 millim., diam. 13 millim.

35. *PAROARIA CUCULLATA* (Lath.).

♂. Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Dec. 5, 1881.

A tolerably common bird in the upper Riverine provinces; and much kept as a cage-bird in Buenos Aires; as it has a very fine whistle, almost rivalling that of the English Blackbird in power, but not in variety.

36. *PAROARIA CAPITATA* (Lafr. et d'Orb.).

♂. Argentine Republic, March 31, 1881.

The exact locality of this species is unknown to me, as I obtained it alive from a bird-fancier in Buenos Aires; but most probably it came from some part of the province of Corrientes.

37. *CORYPHOSPINGUS CRISTATUS* (Gm.).

♀. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 15, 1880.

Iris sepia.

This bird was shot in an open country 'dotted with thickets of low brushwood, in which it skips about.

38. *POOSPIZA ASSIMILIS*, Cab. Mus. Hein. i. p. 137.

♂. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., July 1, 1881.

Iris brick-red.

Abundant amongst the thick weeds and grass in the outskirts of the ruins of the Jesuit town, and often found in the same localities as the common *Zonotrichia pileata*, and, most likely in consequence of its similarity in appearance and habits, passed over by me many times, supposing it to be that bird.

[I have determined this bird, which Mr. White had taken for the nearly allied *P. thoracica*.—P. L. S.]

39. *POOSPIZA TORQUATA* (Lafr. et d'Orb.).

♂. San Pedro, Santiago del Estero, Arg. Rep., Sept. 11, 1881.

I saw three or four of this species actively engaged in eating the young shoots of the algaroba tree.

40. *POOSPIZA MELANOLEUCA*, Vieill.

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 3, 1880.

♀. " " Nov. 9, 1880.

Iris crimson.

This bird frequents the gardens in the vicinity of houses, where it vigorously pursues the ants amongst the branches of trees.

41. *POOSPIZA ERYTHROPHRYS*, ScL. Ibis, 1881, p. 599, t. xvii. fig. 1.

♂. Rio Lujan, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., March 9, 1881.

Iris sepia.

I sent home a specimen of this bird, believing it to be *P. nigro-rufa*; but Mr. Sclater declared it to be a new species, taking it for a type specimen, and describing it in 'The Ibis.' I obtained it on the Sierras of Totoral, Catamarca, a range which rises to the height of 3000 or 4000 feet above the sea-level, and is more or less densely wooded to near the summit; but since that time I have secured another specimen about 20 miles north of Buenos Aires, being the second I have yet seen.

42. *PHRYGILUS GAYI* (Eyd. et Gerv.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 9, 1880.

♀. " " Sept. 14, 1880.

Iris brown.

Not uncommon round the outskirts of Andalgalá; generally frequents the gardens and orchards.

43. *CATAMENIA ANALIS* (Lafr. et d'Orb.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 14, 1880.

This bird was shot as it took refuge under the corridor of our house during a very severe snowstorm that lasted two days. The only specimen I have seen.

44. *ZONOTRICHIA PILEATA* (Bodd.).

♂. Rio Lujan, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., March 12, 1881.

♀. Punta Lara, Buenos Aires, Feb. 23, 1881.

A very common bird everywhere, and regarded in the Argentine Republic much as is the Sparrow in England. It builds its nest of grass and hair on the ground, and usually beneath a thistle or tuft of herbage. The egg is of a bluish-green ground, mottled equally all over, except at the pointed end, with rufous-brown spots. The clutch generally consists of three.

Meas.: axis 21 millim., diam. 16 millim.

45. *COTURNICULUS MANIMBE* (Licht.).

♂. Santo Tomé, Corrientes, Arg. Rep., May 16, 1881.

This specimen was obtained in low brushwood near the river Itacua, where it flew out of the long grass growing close to the water; it was the only one seen.

46. *SALTATRICULA MULTICOLOR*, Burm.

♂. Fuerte de Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 3, 1880.

Found on the trees, feeding on the insects in the flowers, and also on the seeds. The bird was wild, and uttered a piercing whistle on flying away.

47. *EMBERNAGRA PLATENSIS* (Gm.).

♂. Punta Lara, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 21, 1881.

♂. Santo Tomé, Corrientes, Arg. Rep., May 14, 1881.

♀. Rio Lujan, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., March 9, 1881.

Iris brown.

Numbers of these birds were noticed settling on the highest spikes of grass or reeds in the neighbourhood of rivers or lagoons, away from woody shelter. They have a peculiar pitching jerky flight, and are usually seen in pairs. Their song is an agreeable trill.

48. *CHRYSOMITRIS BARBATA* (Mol.).

♂. Sierras de Totoral, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., July 29, 1880.

♂. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 28, 1881.

♀. " " " " "

Iris dark.

This finch was secured in the thickest parts of the woods in the Sierras of Totoral, but is so scarce there that only one specimen could be obtained; in Santo Tomé, however, it occurred in large flocks amongst the woods near the river Uruguay, where, when startled, they fly up sharply and settle on the branches, uttering a very pretty chorus.

49. *SYCALIS FLAVEOLA* (Linn.).

♂. Monte Grande, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Jan. 4, 1881.

♀. Flores, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Jan. 27, 1881.

Iris sepia.

This pretty song-bird is exceedingly common around the houses in the suburbs of Buenos Aires.

The nest, when located in holes in the houses, is built of straw and twigs, but when in trees is usually lined with horsehair. The breeding-season extends from early spring to autumn; and the eggs, rather sharply pointed, are of a light green ground, mottled with brown spots; and the clutch consists of four.

Meas.: axis 19 millim., diam. 14 millim.

[I have not seen Mr. White's specimens; but they are probably *S. pelzelni*, mihi, Ibis, 1872, p. 42, if the species are distinct, as I believe is the case.—P. L. S.]

50. *MOLOTHRUS BONARIENSIS* (Gm.).

♂. Monte Grande, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Dec. 31, 1880.

♀. " " " " Jan. 4, 1881.

The birds are common all over the Republic. It is usual for them to lay in the nests of other birds, such as *Troglodytes furvus*; indeed I have never known these lazy architects take the trouble to construct their own dwellings.

The number of eggs varies in different nests, as likewise their coloration. All, however, have a white ground; but some are dotted with large rufous-brown spots, whilst others are entirely devoid of them; but the typical shell is sprinkled over thickly with minute reddish-brown spots on a white ground.

Meas.: axis 24 millim., diam. 19 millim.

51. *MOLOTHRUS RUFO-AXILLARIS*, Cass.

♂. Fuerte de Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 2, 1880.

♀. City of Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Aug. 7, 1880.

Iris brown.

Rather common round the hedges and high trees by the side of alfalfa-fields in the neighbourhood of Andalgala, but by no means rare likewise in the province of Buenos Aires. In the spring of 1882 I obtained near Salto, Buenos Aires, its eggs, and found them laid in an old and large nest built of sticks by *Anumbius acuticaudatus*, high up in a Eucalyptus tree. The old birds kept near the nest, and, the moment any one approached, came close up to and around him, screeching. Four eggs in a clutch; the shell rather elongated, with pale green ground, streaked and spotted with dark sepia, thicker around the blunt end.

Meas.: axis 22 millim., diam. 16 millim.

52. *AGELEUS PHŒNICEUS* (Linn.).

♂. Adrogué, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Jan. 28, 1881.

Iris dark.

Of these birds I obtained two or three in a maize-field.

[This specimen requires examination. I have never seen *A. phœniceus* from anywhere so far south.—P. L. S.]

53. *AGELEUS THILIUS* (Mol.).

♂ ♀. Rio Lujan, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., March 10, 1881.

♂. " " " " March 7, 1881.

Iris sepia.

Rather common in the province of Buenos Aires, where it is found plentifully in swampy ground. The cone-like nest is constructed of grass and rush, lined with fine grass, and is placed about a foot above the water, between two or three rushes united together. The egg, rather elongated and pointed, has a bluish ground with black markings around the blunt end. It measures, axis 22 millim., diam. 17 millim.

54. *XANTHOSOMUS RUFICAPILLUS* (Vieill.).

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 18, 1880.

♀. Fuerte de Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 9, 1880.

Frequents lofty trees, in the midst of which I have shot it both in Andalgala and Oran.

55. *AMBLYRHAMPHUS HOLOSERICEUS* (Scop.).

♂. Punta Lara, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 22, 1881.

♀. Rio Lujan, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., March 10, 1881.

Iris dark.

This beautiful bird is not uncommon in the swamps of the provinces of Buenos Aires.

56. *LEISTES SUPERCILIARIS*, Bp.

♂. Salta, Arg. Rep., Oct. 23, 1880.

♀. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 10, 1881.

Iris sepia.

These birds, usually met with in marshy ground in October, frequent the alfalfares (lucerne-fields), evidently for nesting-purposes. The male has a very pretty song, which is usually uttered whilst poised on the wing; and, after the strain is finished, descending to the ground, it perches on some long grass-stalk.

57. *PSEUDOLEISTES VIRESCENS* (Vieill.).

♂. Punta Lara, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 21, 1881.

Iris dark brown.

Found abundantly in this district, flying in flocks of about twenty. They settle in the marshy land, and, if disturbed, take to the topmost twigs of the belt of tala trees that here line the shore of the river.

58. *CYANOCORAX PILEATUS* (Temm.).

♂. Campo Colorado, Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 4, 1880.

Iris yellow.

This Blue Jay is very common about the woods at Campo Colorado, and, besides being remarkably tame and inquisitive, has a great variety of peculiar grating metallic notes. On the sierras of Totoral I likewise met with it; and it is found as far south as Tucuman and Catamarca.

59. *CYANOCORAX CÆRULEUS* (Vieill.).

♂. San Javier, Arg. Rep., June 8, 1881.

This bird is found here at times in flocks, and makes a great deal of noise, but is exceedingly wild and difficult to shoot, so that I had to use ball-cartridge to secure this specimen.

60. *MYIOTHERETES RUFIVENTRIS* (Vieill.).

♀. Monte Grande, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Jan. 5, 1881.

Iris sepia.

As I was shooting Biscachas one evening I found this bird flying about their burrows.

61. *TÆNIOPTERA NENGETA* (Linn.).

♂. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 7, 1881.

Iris crimson.

This Flycatcher is found on the open grass-lands scattered about amidst the dense woods of this district.

62. *TÆNIOPTERA CORONATA* (Vieill.).

♂. Flores, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., April 15, 1881.

Iris amber.

I have seen two or three specimens of this bird frequenting the scattered groves in the vicinity of Flores.

63. *TÆNIOPTERA IRUPERO* (Vieill.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 6, 1880.

♀. " " " " Sept. 1, 1880.

♀. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 21, 1881.

Iris dark sepia.

This bird was bagged in a vineyard; but it does not appear to be abundant at Andalgala, although in the scattered thorny woods of the sandy plains around San Pedro (Santiago del Estero), in Cordova, and other parts many are seen; and on one occasion I noticed a stray specimen as far south as the neighbourhood of Buenos Aires.

Rarely are two observed together, as they seem each to appropriate a plot of ground, and, if chased, return as soon as possible to that spot, of which they never lose sight. Perching on the top of a bush, they now and again dart to the ground for insects, or into the air for flies. I shot a pair on the outskirts of the cultivated ground, where they are usually found near houses; these were busy constructing a nest of twigs and horsehair in the lower part of an algaroba tree.

In Misiones the bird is rare.

64. *OCHTHÆCA LEUCOPHRYS* (d'Orb. et Lafr.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 14, 1880.

During a violent snow-storm that lasted two days, this bird, with several others, took refuge under the verandah of our house, and was captured by a boy. It is very rare.

65. CYBERNETES YETAPA (Vieill.).

♂ ♀. Itapua, Misiones, Arg. Rep., July 16, 1881.

Iris wood-brown.

Not far from the junction of the Saima with the Paraná, these birds were shot, in a large swamp.

They fly in pairs near the ground with a pitching motion, settling on a long reed. Only one note was heard, uttered on the wing or as they were about to fly.

One or two specimens were observed near San Javier on the Uruguay. Their food I found to consist entirely of ants.

66. SISOPYGIS ICTEROPHRYS (Vieill.).

♂. Flores, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., April 18, 1881.

♀. Punta Lara, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 18, 1881.

Iris sepia.

Several of these birds were observed flying around a tree at Punta Lara; in fact they are by no means uncommon in the province of Buenos Aires.

67. CNIPOLEGUS ATERRIMUS, Kaup.

♂. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 7, 1881.

Iris crimson.

I shot this bird in the forest near the river Uruguay, where, both at Concepcion and San Javier, it was abundant.

68. CNIPOLEGUS, sp. inc.

♀. Santo Tomé, Corrientes, Arg. Rep., May 14, 1881.

[The example examined is probably a female of *C. cyaneirostris*, or of a species very closely allied.—P. L. S.]

69. LICHENOPS PERSPICILLATUS (Gm.).

♂. Monte Grande, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Jan. 5, 1881.

♀. " " " " Jan. 2, 1881.

A common bird in the Argentine Republic.

70. MACHETORNIS RIXOSA (Vieill.).

♂. Flores, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., April 8, 1881.

♀. " " " " April 15, 1881.

♀. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 10, 1881.

Iris dark.

This is common in the province of Buenos Aires. During the month of October, in Salto, I took its eggs, which have a pinkish ground, thickly studded with streaks and spots of a reddish brown. Four in a clutch.

Meas.: axis 24 millim., diam. 18 millim.

71. CENTRITES NIGER (Bodd.).

♂. San José de Flores, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Aug. 26, 1881.

♀. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 12, 1881.

In Salto I saw two or three specimens, one male and the rest

females, which I shot on the edge of a lagoon. In Flores a very wild specimen (the only one seen, in fact) was secured in the bañado or low swampy ground; it continued flying along and settling on the ground, but seemed disinclined to make for any shrubs, although some were near at hand.

The nest is found close to the edge of the lagoon, about half a yard above the water, and is built pendent from two or three rushes united; covered at the top, with the exception of a small circular entrance $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter, placed at one side, and at times another small entrance near the bottom; it is constructed of roots of grass and rushes tightly cemented together, and beautifully lined with down. The external measurements of the nest are 4 inches in height and 3 in diameter.

The egg, which is of a deep bluish-green and spotless, has a peculiar squat form, the upper part truly hemispherical, the lower spheroidal. Three eggs in a clutch.

Meas.: axis 19 millim., diam. $16\frac{1}{2}$ millim.

72. *PLATYRHYNCHUS MYSTACEUS* (Vieill.).

♀. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 7, 1881.

This bird was shot in the woods, and was the only specimen obtained.

73. *EUSCARTHUS GULARIS* (Temm.).

♂. Santo Tomé, Corrientes, Arg. Rep., May 11, 1881.

A bird that is found in the thickest parts of hedges, on the outskirts of the town of Oran, and has a pretty warble. It is very difficult to see, and appears rather uncommon. It was likewise observed in Misiones, and with the same habits.

74. *EUSCARTHUS MARGARITACEIVENTER* (d'Orb. et Lafr.).

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 15, 1880.

Abundant about the hedgerows in the vicinity of Oran.

75. *CULICIVORA STENURA*, Sw.

♂. Itapua, Misiones, Arg. Rep., July 18, 1881.

This pretty little bird is the only one of its species I have seen anywhere in the Republic. I shot it on marshy land near the river Saimá, some three miles off Itapua. As I was working my way through the marsh I heard a tiny creaking chirp, which I took to proceed from a cricket, but afterwards from a bird, although I could not see one; but on beating the grass, the chirp meanwhile receding, something flew up as it were a locust. I followed it with my eye, and marked it settle upon a small reed, where I shot it.

76. *HAPALOCERCUS FLAVIVENTRIS* (Lafr. et d'Orb.).

♂. Rio Lujan, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., March 9, 1881.

♀. Punta Lara, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 18, 1881.

Iris sepia.

This little bird, which has a chirping note, was shot whilst skipping about amongst the weeds near swampy ground.

77. *STIGMATURA FLAVO-CINEREA* (Burm.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 2, 1880.

Usually three or four of these birds are found on one tree at the same time, frequenting the topmost branches. They have a peculiar chirp.

78. *SERPAPHAGA SUBCRISTATA* (Vieill.).

♂. Monte Grande, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Dec. 31, 1880.

♂. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 21, 1881.

♀. Flores, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., April 8, 1881.

Iris dark sepia.

In the thickest brushwood, but at times in the recesses of the woods of Concepcion, are found these little birds, which generally go in pairs, and are very quick in their movements as they skip and flutter about. They are abundant not only in Misiones, but in various other parts of the Republic. In the province of Buenos Aires I obtained its nest and eggs, the former of which presents an exact inverted cone, of exterior depth 4 inches, interior 1·5 in., diameter of top 2·5 in., of mouth 1·5 in., lined with feathery fluff, and constructed entirely of moss, lichen, and hair. It is placed in the forks of trees; three eggs in a clutch, of a dull yellow tinge, without spots. The middle of November is about the breeding-season of this bird.

79. *SERPAPHAGA NIGRICANS* (Vieill.).

♂ ♀. Itapua, Misiones, Arg. Rep., July 18, 1881.

Iris dark.

I have seen very few specimens of this pretty little bird, but shot a pair on the banks of the Saimá, about a league from Itapua. They were flying about and settling every now and then on the rocks near the water, or on the ground beside a sedgy clump, but very rarely alighted on a twig or rush.

80. *LEPTOPOGON TRISTIS*, Sci. et Salv., P. Z. S. 1876, p. 254.

♀. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 6, 1881.

I shot this bird amongst the lofty trees near the river-banks, where it was abundant; it was likewise met with on the sierras of Totoral, but was not common there.

81. *ELAINEA ALBICEPS* (Lafr. et d'Orb.) ?

♂. Flores, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 2, 1881.

♀. " " " " Jan. 27, 1881.

Iris brown.

Very common in the province of Buenos Aires; found in the clumps of trees.

82. *RHYNCHOCYCLUS SULPHURESCENS*.

♂. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 6, 1881.

This specimen I secured in the dense and almost impenetrable forests.

83. *PITANGUS BELlicosus* (Vieill.).

♂. City of Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Aug. 6, 1880.

Very common over almost the whole of the Argentine Republic.

The nest, built in trees at no regular height, is rather large and very rough exteriorly, a foot in depth, eight inches in breadth, and constructed of wood, straw, and twigs; but the interior is beautifully lined with soft and downy feathers. Four eggs usually, but sometimes five, form the clutch: the rather elongate shell is of a parchment-coloured ground, rather thinly sprinkled towards the blunt end with dull blue and blackish spots, the latter predominating. It measures, axis 30 millim., diam. 23 millim.

84. *MYIODYNASTES SOLITARIUS* (Vieill.).

♀. Campo Santo, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 29, 1880.

Shot in the thick forests, and apparently rare.

85. *HIRUNDINEA BELlicosA* (Vieill.); Seláter, Ibis, 1882, p. 164.

♂ ♀. Fuerte de Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Aug. 31, 1880.

Iris dark sepia.

This Flycatcher is by no means common. It is seen about the houses in pairs, but no more than one pair at a time at one dwelling, perched upon some projection, whence it darts off into the air at passing insects.

The snap of its beak, as it dashes at the flies, can be heard a long way off. Its cry is peculiar and piteous. There is no perceptible difference in plumage between the male and female.

86. *MYIOBIUS NÆVIUS* (Bodd.).

♂. Flores, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., March 9, 1881.

♀. " " " " Nov. 19, 1881.

Iris brown.

These birds are very common in Buenos Aires; and I have met with them as far as the extreme northern limits of the Republic.

87. *PYROCEPHALUS RUBINEUS* (Bodd.).

♂ ♀. Monte Grande, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Dec. 31, 1880.

One of the most familiar birds in the province of Buenos Aires, which the natives call "Churinha," from one of the notes of its song, "chooréen," uttered when poised on the wing high up in the air; nor is its pretty trill confined to the hours of daylight, but through the lonely stages of the night it frequently enlivens the darkness like a Nightingale.

It builds usually in the orchards, in the fork of a tree. The nest,
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which is very difficult to distinguish, is of insignificant depth, very squat, and covered exteriorly with lichens.

The breeding-season lasts from September to January. The eggs, of which there are three in a clutch, are of a light buff ground blotched over with dull blue, on which occur brown and blackish spots, the whole markings forming a thickened band extending round the egg and just above the centre towards the blunt end.

Meas.: axis 18 millim., diam. 14 millim.

88. CONTOPUS BRACHYTARSUS, ScL.

♂ ♀. Campo Santo, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 29, 1880.

Iris sepia.

Not uncommon in the forests of Salta.

89. MYIARCHUS TYRANNULUS (Müller).

♀. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 18, 1880.

Iris dark sepia.

This species seems to take the place here of the *Pitungus bellicosus* in other parts of the Republic.

90. TYRANNUS MELANCHOLICUS, Vieill.

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 18, 1880.

♀. " " Nov. 13, 1880.

Iris dark.

I found this bird abundant in Oran.

91. MILVULUS TYRANNUS (Linn.).

♂. Salta, Arg. Rep., Oct. 23, 1880.

♂. Flores, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 2, 1881 (immature).

♀. Salta, Arg. Rep., Oct. 23, 1880.

Iris dark.

This is a familiar bird throughout the Republic; but the specimens obtained in the extreme north had much longer tails than those of the metropolitan district.

The nest is built high up in lofty trees, having four eggs in a clutch. The shell is elongated and rather sharply pointed, with a white ground, spotted with rich brown, more thickly towards the blunt end; in fact pointwards it is almost free.

Meas.: axis 24 millim., diam. 17 millim.

92. CHIROXIPHIA CAUDATA (Shaw).

♂ ♀. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 6, 1881.

Iris dark.

Of this bird I only saw two or three males and one female, during my residence in Misiones, and shot them in the forest near the Uruguay; but the female was very difficult to distinguish in colour from the leaves. A very striking difference in coloration, however, obtains between the sexes.

93. *PHYTOTOMA RUTILA*, Vieill.

♂. Fuerte de Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 21, 1880.

♀. " " " " " " Sept. 3, 1880.

♂, iris amber; ♀, iris purple.

The females are rather scarce and very difficult to see, as they are found singly and are careful to hide in the thickest parts of the hedges: their note was long mistaken by me for that of a cricket, so harsh and creaking is it. The males, however, at this season go in flocks, feeding upon the young shoots of the algarroba. Coloration of the sexes quite distinct.

94. *GEOSITTA TENUIROSTRIS* (Lafr. et d'Orb.).

♂. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 17, 1881.

♀. " " " " " " Oct. 18, 1881.

These birds are very common in the open campos, running along the ground and then taking a low flight.

95. *FURNARIUS FIGULUS* (Licht.).

♂. San Pedro, Santiago del Estero, Arg. Rep., July 15, 1880.

♀. Salta, Arg. Rep., Oct. 23, 1880.

Iris brown.

This bird, met with in several parts of the Republic, makes a large nest of sticks, usually at a great height.

[I have never seen *F. figulus* from the Argentine Republic, and should doubt its occurrence there. The only *Furnarius* known to me from La Plata besides *F. rufus* is *F. tricolor*, Doering, of which I have a specimen from Cordova.—P. L. S.]

96. *FURNARIUS RUFUS* (Gm.).

♂ ♀. Monte Grande, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Jan. 5, 1881.

A very familiar bird over the greater part of the Argentine territory. Its breeding-habits are very irregular, as in Misiones I remarked it constructing its mud nest in midwinter, although when I was in Salto, Buenos Aires, in October, the breeding-season appeared well advanced. An instance is known to me in which one nest was built on the top of another by a different pair of birds, thus forming a two-story house; but this is a very rare occurrence.

With Mr. Gibson's statement (Ibis, 1880, p. 17) that the nests of this bird are larger in the Banda Oriental than here, I do not agree. With regard to the position of the entrance, of fifteen nests observed personally at Salto, B. Aires, the entrance was on the left in eight cases, and on the right in seven. What, then, influences the feathery architect in selecting its position will probably remain a mystery.

The locality chosen for the nest is usually the fork of a tree, or a post, or the projecting cornice of a house. It is very solid and strong, being made of cemented mud from 1.5 to 2.5 inches thick: one that I took at haphazard weighed 14 lb.

In Salto I watched the operation of building. The pair began the

work on Sunday, Oct. 9, 1881, but did little the first day except just trace out the foundation, as there was no mud obtainable, and they had to resort to water-tubs to form it; but on Monday morning it poured for about six to eight hours, during which time the birds did not work. When the rain ceased, however, they began in right earnest, having plenty of material at hand.

They generally took it in turns to build, one of them always remaining inside doing the masonry, whilst the other brought in the mud; but at times both became masons and labourers. On Tuesday afternoon the nest was half built; but on Wednesday progress became lax, as the soil was drying up.

On Thursday the hemispherical walls rose all round to the height of the bird, except where the entrance was to be; and the inside architect had thenceforward to stretch its neck and stand on tiptoe to complete the cupola, which it did in the direction of the entrance. In the construction of the roof much horsehair was mixed with the mud to strengthen it.

On Saturday the roof was well advanced; and now they commenced to insert the internal curved partition which, fronting the entrance, hinders a view of, and forms a passage into, the interior.

This was a labour that occupied considerable time; but on Sunday the 16th it rained again heavily, and thus lightened the toil of the industrious builders.

On the Tuesday following the partition was finished, and it only remained to close up the entrance to the required height with a small section of roofing. This done, the dwelling was completed on Wednesday the 19th; and then but a short time was occupied in lining the inside with fine dry grass, and the whole was ready for occupation. The Oven-bird seems to lay only three eggs; but from one nest I once took four chicks; whilst I have found as many as three other species of bird's eggs laid amongst those of *F. rufus*.

The egg is milk-white and perfectly spotless.

Meas.: axis 28 millim., diam. 21 millim.

97. *UPUCERTHIA LUSCINIA* (Burm.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 2, 1880.

♀. " " " " Sept. 1, 1880.

Iris sepia.

Found about the hedges. Every time it springs from one twig to another it utters a sharp jerky whistle.

98. *CINCLODES FUSCUS* (Vieill.).

♀. Pucará, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Aug. 25, 1880.

In the rocky quebrada (ravine) of Pucará, 7500 feet above sea-level, I met with this bird hopping from stone to stone in the stream in pursuit of insects, and at times it ran right into the water.

99. *SCLERURUS CAUDACUTUS* (Vieill.).

♂. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 2, 1881.

Iris dark.

Only two of these birds were observed during my trip through Misiones. It frequents the dense gloomy forests, where it busies itself in scraping amongst the dead leaves; and although it may be close at hand and the rustling distinct, a quick eye is required to detect it, as its plumage is of the exact colour of decaying foliage. If startled, it flies up onto the trunk of the nearest tree, and there remains perfectly motionless in an upright position. I never heard it utter a single note.

100. *LEPTASTHENURA ÆGITHALOIDES* (Kittl.).

♀. City of Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Aug. 6, 1880.

Iris light sepia.

Not uncommon in the well-wooded gardens around the town.

101. *LEPTASTHENURA FULIGINICEPS* (Lafr. et d'Orb.).

♀. Sierras de Totoral, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., July 24, 1880.

Iris light brown.

I found this bird principally on the slopes of the hills, outside the dense woods; but it is not abundant. It has a note something similar to that of the Wren.

102. *SYNALLAXIS RUFICAPILLA* (Vieill.).

♂. Monte Grande, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Jan. 2, 1881.

Two or three were seen in the tala woods.

[I have not seen Mr. White's specimens, and should rather doubt their belonging to the true *S. ruficapilla*.—P. L. S.]

103. *SYNALLAXIS FRONTALIS*, Pelz.

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 12, 1880.

♀. Sierras de Totoral, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., July 29, 1880.

In the upper provinces of the Argentine Republic this bird is not unfrequently met with.

104. *SYNALLAXIS ALBESCENS*, Temm.

♀. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 8, 1881.

Not unfrequently met with in the woods of Misiones.

105. *SYNALLAXIS PHRYGANOPHILA*, Vieill.

♂. Punta Lara, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 18, 1881.

Iris reddish brown.

This was the only specimen seen, and was shot in the dense tala woods along the shores of the La Plata.

106. *SYNALLAXIS WHITII*, Sclater, Ibis, 1881, p. 600, t. xvii. fig. 2.

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 9, 1880.

This new species must be rare, as I only succeeded in obtaining one specimen near Oran.

107. *ANUMBIUS ACUTICAUDATUS*, Less.

♂. Salto, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 8, 1881.

♂. Flores, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., March 31, 1881.

♀. " " " Aug. 26, 1881.

Iris dark red.

I have shot this bird in June in Misiones, where it is not uncommon. In Salto (B. Aires), however, it is very numerous about the plantations on the Estancias, where it builds in the forks of high trees, usually the Eucalyptus. The nest is constructed of large twigs, and is a fine structure for the size of the bird, 21 inches in height and 48 in circumference, in fact twice as great as that of *Milvago chimango*. The entrance to the nest, which is near the top, but is not right on it, and is about four or five inches in diameter and neatly rounded, leads downwards by a steeply inclined spiral passage to the bottom. The whole is thickly lined inside with hair, feathers, and wool, making a very soft, downy, and pretty nest, and one that is very difficult to pull to pieces, as the twigs are mostly thorny and strongly interlaced.

There were five eggs in the one I took: their shape is elongated, considerably pointed at one end, and pure white, without spots: the only one to which it can be compared is that of *Columbula picui*; but it is more acutely pointed.

Meas.: axis 24 millim., diam. 17 millim.

108. *PHACELLODOMUS FRONTALIS* (Licht.).

♂. Punta Lara, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 18, 1881.

♀. " " " Feb. 21, 1881.

Iris yellow.

This bird keeps well out of sight amongst the thickest bushy undergrowth of the woods, and makes a very peculiar chattering sound that appears to attract other birds around it, especially the "Chingolo" (*Zonotrichia pileata*), which I have noticed crowding round it in great numbers and in a very excited state—a fact that has forced itself on my observation many times and in several different localities.

109. *PHACELLODOMUS SIBILATRIX*, Sel. P. Z. S. 1879, p. 461.

♂. Monte Grande, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Jan. 7, 1881.

I observed two or three of these birds in a tala thicket at Monte Grande.

110. *HOMORUS UNIRUFUS* (Lafr. et d'Orb.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 16, 1880.

Iris light yellow.

These birds are found usually in the open, where there are large algarroba-trees dotted about.

They are seen in pairs, and utter, with crest erect, and in concert, a succession of peculiar hoarse and varied notes. Their very bulky nests are constructed of large twigs, placed high up in lofty trees.

111. *ANABAZENOPS RUFO-SUPERCILIATUS* (Lafr.).

♂. Sierras de Totoral, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., July 26, 1880.

Iris light brown.

A very wild bird, and exceedingly scarce on this well-wooded mountain-range, but occasionally seen amongst the brushwood in damp places on the hill-side.

112. *SITTASOMUS OLIVACEUS* (Max.).

♂. Campo Santo, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 29, 1880.

♀. Campo Colorado, Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 4, 1880.

Observed, but not abundantly, in the magnificent gloomy forests of Campo Colorado, yet very difficult to distinguish, being of the same hue as the trunks up which they run.

113. *GLYPHORHYNCHUS CUNEATUS* (Licht.).

♂. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 27, 1881.

Iris dark.

Not uncommon in the thick woods, as also in the extensive orange-groves around the old Jesuit ruins.

114. *DENDROCOLAPTES PICUMNUS* (Licht.).

♀. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 21, 1881.

Shot in the thickest parts of woods near the river, climbing up the trees, around which it turned in corkscrew fashion; but does not seem common.

115. *DRYMORNIS BRIDGESI* (Eyton).

♀. Pilciao near Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 17, 1880.

Iris brown.

The cry of this bird is much the same as that of a Woodpecker, and it clings to the algarroba trees in a similar way; but in the afternoon it is seen scattered about on the sandy ground in the pursuit of insects. I have observed it in the northern provinces of the Republic, perhaps as far south as Cordova, although in one instance, in the month of February, a friend of mine obtained a single specimen at Monte Grande, in the vicinity of Buenos Aires. Not in one solitary instance, however, have I met with the bird to the eastward, in Corrientes or Misiones.

[Mr. White calls this species *Nasica longirostris*; but I have little doubt it is *Drymornis bridgesi*, of which I have skins from Mendoza, and Gualaguaychu, in Entrerios. *Nasica* is from Guiana and Amazonis, and does not occur so far south.—P. L. S.]

116. *XIPHOCOLAPTES ALBICOLLIS* (Vieill.).

♀. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 7, 1881.

117. *XIPHOCOLAPTES MAJOR* (Vieill.).

♂ ♀. Campo Colorado, Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 4, 1880.

Iris crimson.

Common here in the dense forest, where their continued hard pecking at the lofty tree-trunks is very accentuated. Two or three

at a time maintain a continued race up a magnificent clear stem as far as the branches, when they fly to the bottom of the next and do likewise.

118. *PICOLAPTES* sp. inc.

♀. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 10, 1881.

[An imperfect skin of a species not known to P. L. S.]

119. *PICOLAPTES* sp. inc.

♀. Fuerte de Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 1, 1880.

Iris sepia.

Not uncommon in the algarroba woods.

[Not seen by P. L. S., perhaps the same as No. 118.—P. L. S.]

120. *THAMNOPHILUS LEACHII*, Such.

♂. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 23, 1881.

Iris dark.

This, the only specimen I have seen in the Republic, was found in the midst of a dense thicket, where it was feeding on the ground on a swarm of large black ants.

121. *THAMNOPHILUS MAJOR*, Vieill.

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 6, 1880.

♀. " " Nov. 12, 1880.

Iris crimson.

These birds are rather numerous in the gardens round the town of Oran. There is considerable difference between the males in coloration.

122. *THAMNOPHILUS CÆRULESCENS*, Vieill.

♂. Santo Tomé, Corrientes, Arg. Rep., May 11, 1881.

♀. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 6, 1881.

♀. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 21, 1881.

Iris dark brown.

Frequenting thickets near the banks of some stream, these birds are limited to a very short height from the ground, and utter but one deep-bass call-note, rather mournful and slow.

123. *THAMNOPHILUS ARGENTINUS*, Cab.

Santo Tomé, Corrientes, Arg. Rep., May 14, 1881.

Iris dark red.

Out of three or four seen, I shot this bird in a bush on the banks of the Itacuí, a tributary of the Uruguay, not far from Santo Tomé.

124. *RHINOCRYPTA LANCEOLATA* (Geoffr. et d'Orb.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 10, 1880.

Iris brown.

This bird is found, but not plentifully, about the lanes at Andalgalá, and has a peculiar hoarse croaking note. Springing suddenly from a hedge, and alighting a little distance into the road, it runs along very swiftly with its crest and tail erect, wagging the latter every now and again; then quickly stopping a second, to renew its forward dart, it at last springs up once more into the hedge, where

The seat of *P. gigas* is so firm and close to the branch, that its tiny feet are invisible; the breast is puffed out, and its head in continual motion from one side to the other with a jerky movement. When disturbed it darts off around with a rough jerky flight for a minute or so, and then endeavours to return, but, if still interfered with, seeks a dry twig at the top of some neighbouring tree on which to alight. Its poise when suspended, sipping at the flowers, is heavy and laboured, and the motion of its large wings, although rapid, is perceptible to the eye; and it never remains more than half a minute in this position, when it retires to a branch to rest for at least five minutes, perching with its head towards the sun and its beak slightly elevated.

128. *HELIOMASTER FURCIFER* (Shaw).

2 ♀. City of Catamarca, Arg. Rep., August 7, 1880.

I saw one of these Humming-birds come morning and evening at stated hours to sip the flowers of a "Palo booracko" (*Chorisia insignis*) which grew in the garden next door, but shot these specimens as they were feeding on the "Idiondilla," on the banks of a small stream of running water just without the city.

129. *LEUCIPPUS CHIONOGASTER* (Tsch.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 8, 1880.

♀. " " " " " " Sept. 6, 1880.

On the Idiondilla "which may be termed one of the Humming-bird plants of this region) I shot these specimens. They are very wild and swift in their movements, as indeed are all the Trochilidæ, especially in this neighbourhood, and make a very loud hum, in fact louder than any other species of my acquaintance. I observed one dart after a bird at least ten times its own size, that happened to trespass by perching on the same shrub, and pursue it like a Hawk, hovering over and pouncing down upon it, all the while uttering furious cries of anger.

130. *CHLOROSTILBON SPLENDIDUS* (Vieill.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 22, 1880.

♀. " " " " " " Sept. 3, 1880.

Very abundant round this part towards the end of September, as they evidently breed here, and are found flitting about the blooming Idiondilla in myriads, all the while uttering a beautiful tiny trilling song. The beak during life is of a brilliant red.

131. *PICUMNUS* sp. inc.

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 9, 1880.

Iris sepia.

No more than one pair of these have I ever met with; and they were pecking vigorously in their miniature way, and at very small twigs, just like the larger species of this family at the thick trunks.

132. *CAMPEPHILUS BOLEI* (Wagl.).

♂. Pilciao, Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 16, 1880.

♀. Campo Colorado, Orán, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 4, 1880.

Iris light yellow.

As I was out on muleback at Pilciao chasing the *Chunga burmeisteri*, on passing an algarroba-tree I chanced to observe this beautiful bird, which revealed itself by its vigorous pecking; it seems to be rare in that locality. I likewise obtained it at Campo Colorado, in the midst of the dense forest, but clear of undergrowth. Its cry, or rather croak, is peculiarly strong. The ♀ has more black on the head than the ♂.

133. *DRYOCOPUS ERYTHROPS* (Val.).

♂. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 8, 1881.

Only a few specimens observed, and they only in the dense forests.

134. *PICUS MIXTUS*, Bodd.

♂. Fuerte de Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 2, 1880.

Iris sepia.

I shot a pair of these Woodpeckers on some old posts in the midst of a very dense hedge; one skin, however, was unfortunately spoilt.

135. *PICUS CACTORUM*, Lafr. et d'Orb.

♂ ♀. City of Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Aug. 7, 1880.

Iris brown.

I found these tolerably abundant in the province of Catamarca, where three or four are usually observed together on a large cactus, but on being disturbed either take to another cactus or to the lofty branches of algarroba trees.

136. *CHLORONERPES AFFINIS* (Wagl.).

♂ ♀. Campo Santo, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 29, 1880.

Iris crimson.

Does not seem uncommon about these parts.

[I have not seen Mr. White's skins referred to this species — P. L. S.]

137. *CHLORONERPES AURULENTUS* (Licht.).

♂. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 8, 1881.

♀. Concepción, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 23, 1881.

This bird, unusually met with in Concepción, is common in San Javier, only a distance of ten leagues further north. It is seen singly in dead high trees, and makes a tapping so loud, and heard at such a distance, as to cause me to imagine it proceeded from one of the larger species.

[I have not seen Mr. White's skins; but Azara includes a Woodpecker (his no. 257) which is referred by Hartlaub (Ind. Az. p. 16) and Cab. et Hein. (Mus. Hein. *Scansores*, p. 158) to this species. — P. L. S.]

138. *CHRYSOPTILUS CRISTATUS* (Vieill.).

♂. City of Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Aug. 16, 1880.

♀. " " " Aug. 9, 1880.

Iris brown.

This beautiful red-crested Woodpecker is found over a great stretch of country, as I observed them commonly in all parts of the province of Catamarca, as well as in the sierras of Cordoba; and I believe they are occasionally met with as far south as Buenos Aires.

They fly in pairs, frequenting old trees; and their note is exceedingly shrill.

139. *LEUCONERPES CANDIDUS* (Otto).

♂. San Javier, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 10, 1881.

♀. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 21, 1881.

Iris light blue.

These noisy birds, abundant in various parts of Misiones as well as the rest of the north of the Republic, go about in flocks of eight or ten and settle on the same tree, which they proceed to ascend very comically in a spiral or corkscrew fashion, each head touching the preceding tail. They are not seen in dense forests, but only out in the open, on some old, usually dead tree; and I think I observed them as far south as the sierras of Cordoba.

140. *COLAPTES CAMPESTRIS* (Vieill.).

♂. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 27, 1881.

♀. " " " June 23, 1881.

Iris dark red.

Very common inhabitants of the open campo, where they are usually discovered, either on the ground, or more generally perched on an ant-hill, two feet high, and constructed of such intensely hard ferruginous clay as to admit of almost indefinite weight on the top without disturbing its shape; the tops of these they are engaged in pecking. They very rarely take to a tree, and are never observed in the woods. They fly in pairs; but commonly a good many pairs remain within call of each other.

141. *TROGON VARIEGATUS*, Spix.

♂. Campo Colorado, Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 4, 1880.

Iris brown.

These birds are very rare here, and have a peculiar cry, which it is impossible to describe otherwise than by saying that it resembles the voice of a ventriloquist, very deceiving as to distance, and extremely mournful. They frequent the topmost branches of the loftiest forest-trees, and are very difficult to discover, as they sit motionless. A Monte-Cristo rifle had not sufficient range to reach them. One I shot on the banks of the Vermejo had some small fish-scales in its crop.

142. TROGON SURUCURA, Vieill.

♀. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 21, 1881.

Iris dark.

Although for several days I stalked these birds, hearing their call, yet I could only manage to secure one specimen in the dense forest.

143. CROTOPHAGA ANI, Linn.

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 9, 1880.

♀. " " " " Nov. 18, 1880.

Iris sepia.

This bird flies in flocks, and is usually observed in close juxtaposition with a flock of the *Guira piririgua* in the open country on the outskirts of the cultivated ground, where it perches on bush or hedges.

144. GUIRA PIRIRIGUA (Vieill.).

♂. Flores, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., April 8, 1881.

♀. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 8, 1881.

Iris deep orange.

The native name of this noisy bird is "Uraca;" and it is found abundantly all over the Republic, commonly flying in flocks of six or seven. Here, in a willow tree, a nest was discovered, built of twigs, containing seven eggs, which was quite open above, with a very deep basin, and was lined with dry leaves, principally of the "Eucalyptus;" but in other provinces different leaves are employed. The Uracas are sometimes tamed and kept in houses to rid them of insects; but their noise and dirty habits disqualify them for occupying the position of favourites.

The egg is of an oblate spheroidal form, equally blunted at both ends, with a slightly raised white chalky network equally diffused over a pale green ground.

Meas.: axis 42 millim., diam. 32 millim.

145. PIAYA CAYANA (Linn.).

♂ ♀. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 21, 1881.

Iris crimson.

I found this tame bird rather rare round here, but usually met with it in the dense woods, where, on account of the slowness of its movements, it was easy to shoot, although difficult to distinguish.

Very seldom seen in flight, it hops from twig to twig, using its fine tail at the end of the leap to steady its perch.

146. COCCYZUS MINOR (Gm.).

♂. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 17, 1881.

Iris dark.

Not uncommon in the province of Buenos Aires, especially about Monte Grande; but in other parts of the Republic I do not remember often having met with it. Its nest is built in low trees or hedges, much resembling that of the Dove in outward appearance,

but lined inside with soft dry grass. The eggs, of which there are two in a clutch, rather squat and blunted at both ends, are of a uniformly dull pale green, without spots or markings of any kind.

Meas.: axis 31 millim., diam. 24 millim.

[I suspect the Cuckoo referred to is *C. melanocoryphus*, Vieill., as *C. minor* does not (to my knowledge) occur nearly so far south.—P. L. S.]

147. *COCCYZUS CINEREUS* (Vieill.).

♂. Flores, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Jan. 24, 1882.

Iris crimson.

I observed but two or three in the copses round Flores.

148. *RHAMPHASTOS TOCO* (Gm.).

♂. Campo Colorado, Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 4, 1880.

Iris olive-green.

This Toucan I shot among the lofty forest-trees; they go generally in flocks; and their flight is extremely swift and in a straight line.

They are wild, and by no means plentiful in this neighbourhood; but in Misiones I likewise met with them in greater abundance, where they, in company with the Parrots, commit dreadful havoc amongst the orange-groves.

149. *CONURUS PATAGONUS* (Vieill.).

♂. Guazan, near Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 5, 1880.

♀. Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 6, 1880.

Iris white.

At Guazan this Parrot is found in large flocks, and settles usually on bare trees. By the natives it is called "Loro Barranquero," as it builds its nest in holes in the barrancas or cliffs. When one is shot of a flock flying over, the rest will continue to whirl round the spot long enough to give the sportsman time to kill nearly the whole; and at every shot, as the victims tumble, the rest redouble their screams, so that the noise, always great, becomes at length deafening.

At Cosquin, in the neighbourhood of Córdoba, I had more opportunity of observing them. They are extremely abundant throughout the sierras there, and are very destructive to crops.

On each patch of ground sown with wheat or maize a boy is stationed as a scarecrow; and the shouts of these, the whole length of the valley, some leagues, almost rival in intensity the parrot chorus.

The warfare between the birds and their tormentors, however, is invariably in favour of the former, as they have a habit of gliding unseen to the bottom of the stems, which they bite through, so that the stalk falls and they consume the grain at leisure.

In the winter, fallen fruit-kernels of the woods afford them sustenance. They breed in deep holes on the cliff-faces; and the attempt to sack their nests is very hazardous. Four or five eggs are usually found in a clutch. The young birds form a tasty dish.

150. *CONURUS ACUTICAUDATUS* (Vieill.).

♂ ♀. Guazan near Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 5, 1880.

Iris amber.

This species is not very abundant here, but flies very swiftly in flocks of seven or eight, screeching continually when on the wing. I shot my specimens out of a number perching on a tala tree as they were devouring the young shoots.

151. *CONURUS MOLINÆ*, Souancé.

♂. Campo Colorado, Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 4, 1880.

Iris brown.

A very pretty little Parrakeet, which is met with in dense forests in flocks of about twenty, their flight being limited, for the most part, to the clear aisles beneath the branches.

[I have one of Mr. White's examples of the Parrot which he has named *C. vittatus*. It agrees quite well with skins of *C. molinæ* in my collection, obtained by Natterer in Mato-Grosso, and by Bridges in Bolivia.—P. L. S.]

152. *BOLBORHYNCHUS MONACHUS* (Bodd.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 6, 1880.

♀. San Pedro, Santiago del Estero, Arg. Rep., July 15, 1880.

Iris light brown.

At San Pedro these birds seem very abundant, as many of their capacious nests, built of twigs, and in which they appear to roost, are observed in the algarroba trees around. They fly in large flocks. At Andalgalá, however, they seem rare.

153. *CHRYSOTIS VINACEA* (Max.).

♂. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 20, 1881.

♀. " " " June 27, 1881.

Iris crimson.

Both in Concepcion and San Javier these Parrots are found in incredible numbers feeding in the orange-groves which cover and enclose the extensive Jesuit ruins in those parts of Misiones. They seem to be very voracious, as they feed all day long; and the inhabitants shoot them for food: but they are not easily scared; for on hearing a shot, they only fly up in clouds to descend again, meanwhile making the air resound with their shrill cries. They can be taught to talk tolerably well if taken young.

Their breeding-time is December.

154. *CHRYSOTIS AMAZONICA* (Linn.).

♀. Itapua, Misiones, Arg. Rep., Aug. 6, 1881.

Iris crimson.

Although not very common here, this species is found abundantly in the upper provinces of this Republic, especially Catamarca and Tucuman, as well as in Paraguay.

On its morning and evening passages to and from the sierras, it

flies very high, in large flocks extended in line. When on the wing, it utters a distinct articulate vocal sound, which has led man to cultivate this capacity to a high degree.

The variation in colouring is found to be great both in proportion and situation, the head sometimes being of a uniform yellow.

155. *PIONUS MAXIMILIANI* (Kuhl).

♂. Rio Vermejo, Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 10, 1880.

Iris brown.

Only one specimen seen, perching on one of the topmost branches of a high tree in the dense forest on the banks of the Vermejo.

156. *STRIX FLAMMEA* (Linn.).

♂. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 20, 1881.

Iris dark.

These Owls are commonly met with all over the Republic; but I shot this, the only one seen here, amongst the ruins of the old Jesuit town.

157. *ASIO BRACHYOTUS* (Forst.).

♂. Monte Grande, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., March 1, 1882.

Iris light yellow.

These Owls are very common all over the campos of the province of Buenos Aires, where they make night hideous by their hooting.

158. *PHOLEOPTYNX CUNICULARIA* (Mol.).

♂. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 10, 1881.

♀. Pilciao, Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 17, 1880.

♀. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 22, 1881.

Iris light yellow.

In Misiones this bird exceeds in size and differs in colour from that of the campos of Buenos Aires, as the black soil of the pampas differs from the red clay of Misiones. I saw two or three brace upon the open undulating grass-lands here; but they are generally observed perched upon an ant-hill, beneath which they burrow their nest, as no friendly Biscacha is here present to offer them an asylum. The rather rough nest, situated in a burrow about three feet in length, but which descends not more than two below the surface, is composed of dry hemlock and sticks, without any downy lining. The eggs, of which there are usually four in a clutch, are of a spotless milky white and bluntly rounded at both ends. They measure, axis 34 millim., diam. 26 millim.

159. *BUTEO PTEROCLES* (Temm.).

♂ ♀. Monte Grande, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., April 13, 1882.

Iris dark brown.

I have observed four or five of this species at Monte Grande, but in no other part of the Republic.

160. GERANOSPIZA CÆRULESCENS (Vieill.).

♂. Campo Colorado, Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 4, 1880.

Iris yellow.

I shot this pretty Falcon whilst perched motionless on a low branch of a tree in the dense forest.

It was the only one of the species I had hitherto seen; but subsequently I met with one on the Upper Uruguay.

161. TINNUNCULUS SPARVERIUS (Linn.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 9, 1880.

♀. Pilciao, Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 16, 1880.

Iris brown.

I have met with this Sparrow-hawk in many parts of the Republic. Its flight is limited from clump to clump of trees, perching usually on bare or dead branches.

[Probably *T. cinnamominus* for those who accept this subspecies. Cf. Gurney, Ibis, 1881, p. 554.—P. L. S.]

162. ELANUS LEUCURUS (Vieill.).

♂ ♀. Monte Grande, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Dec. 31, 1880.

Iris yellow.

This White Hawk was shot as it was flying about close to the Estancia house of Monte Grande; but I have not noticed it in any other parts of this province, although subsequently two or three other pairs have been observed about the same locality. It was nesting in some lofty trees.

The eggs are very similar to those of *Milvago chimango*.

163. SPIZIAPTERYX CIRCUMCINCTUS (Kaup).

♀. Guazan, Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 5, 1880.

Iris amber.

A rare bird in this neighbourhood, as this was the only specimen seen.

164. MILVAGO CHIMANGO (Vieill.).

♂. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 14, 1881.

♀. Punta Lara, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 19, 1881.

Iris brown.

In the forks of trees, frequently of the Eucalyptus, this bird builds its open nest of twigs, lined with grass; but the structure is by no means large for the size of the bird. The Chimango is very destructive to house-pigeons on an Estancia. The breeding-season commences early in October. The eggs, of which there are three in a clutch, are rounded and of a rufous-brown ground sprinkled with flakes and spots of the same, but much darker, tint.

Meas.: axis 42 mill., diam. 34 mill.

Legs and feet of a dirty yellow, and base of beak the same.

165. *CATHARTES AURA* (Linn.).

♂. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 27, 1881.

Iris dark.

This Vulture is abundant in these parts.

166. *CATHARTES URUBITINGA*, Pelzeln.

♀. Sierras de Totoral, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., July 30, 1880.

This Black Vulture was shot at an elevation of 4500 feet above the sea-level. Native name for all this genus is either Cuervo or Jote, according to locality.

[Is not *C. atratus* the species intended here?—P. L. S.]

167. *PHALACROCORAX BRASILIANUS* (Gm.).

♂. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 10, 1881.

Iris dark blue.

This species is found plentifully all over the country on small streams and rivers.

168. *ARDEA EGRETTA* (Gm.).

♂. Punta Lara, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 19, 1881.

♀. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 15, 1880.

Iris white.

This Egret, whose native name is "Mira-sol," is met with all over the Republic, especially on the river Paraná.

169. *ARDEA CANDIDISSIMA* (Gm.).

♀. Bañado de Flores, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., April 20, 1881.

Found in abundance throughout the province of Buenos Aires by the sides of streams and lagoons.

The egg, equally blunted at both ends, is of a flesh-coloured ground, with at times a few tiny rufous-brown spots sprinkled indiscriminately over its surface.

Meas.: axis 36 mill., diam. 27 mill.

170. *ARDEA SIBILATRIX* (Temm.).

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 13, 1880.

Iris pale blue.

This was the only one of this species seen during my sojourn in Oran.

171. *TIGRISOMA BRASILIENSE* (Linn.).

♀. City of Corrientes, Arg. Rep., Aug. 10, 1881.

This handsome bird was shot on the river Paraná, close to Corrientes; and no other specimen was observed.

172. *NYCTICORAX GARDENI* (Gm.).

♂. Pacheco, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., March 12, 1881.

♀. Sauce Redondo, Salta, Arg. Rep., Oct. 17, 1880.

Iris yellow.

Close by the extensive swamps around Sauce Redondo, I found

about half a dozen of these birds perched upon a tree; and after shooting one, the rest merely flew round and alighted upon another close by. Not uncommon, moreover, as far south as Buenos Aires.

173. *FALCINELLUS IGNEUS* (Gm.)?

♀. Punta Lara, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 21, 1881.

Iris sepia.

The Glossy-winged Ibis is common in the lagoons and swamps over most of the Republic, especially in the province of Buenos Aires, where it is met with in large flocks.

174. *CHAUNA CHAVARIA* (Linn.).

♀. Punta Lara, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 21, 1881.

Iris brown.

The Crested Screamers, whose native name is Chajá, fly in pairs, and frequently circle in the air to an enormous bright. Their usual haunt is around swamps and lagoons.

175. *DENDROCYGNA FULVA* (Gm.).

♂ ♀. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 12, 1881.

Iris dark brown.

This Duck was shot out of a flock of fifteen which rose from a lagoon; and attached to its feet were found two leeches.

176. *CAIRINA MOSCHATA* (Linn.).

♀. Campo Colorado, Oran, Salta, Arg. Exp., Nov. 4, 1880.

Iris brown.

The only specimen seen here; and that was shot in a pool of stagnant water in the sandy river-bed; but the bird was afterwards found not uncommonly further north.

177. *QUERQUEDULA CYANOPTERA* (Vieill.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgala, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 25, 1880.

Iris orange.

This beautiful Duck was the victim of a boy's skill with the bolas, and was brought to me wounded; it is, however, widespread throughout the Republic.

178. *SPATULA PLATALEA* (Vieill.).

♀. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 12, 1881.

Iris dark.

Not uncommon in this neighbourhood.

179. *METOPIANA PEPOSACA* (Vieill.).

♂. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 17, 1881.

♀. " " " " Oct. 12, 1881.

Iris crimson.

Several of these birds were found in the streams and lagoons.

Legs of deep yellow, beak slightly lighter in tint; wattle at the base of the beak a deep orange-red.

180. *COLUMBA MACULOSA*, Temm.

♂. Fuerte de Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 5, 1880.

Iris white.

I found this elegant Pigeon flying in flocks in the potreros (paddocks) and alfalfares, where they were feeding on the young alfalfa (Lucerne) shoots, as evidenced by their crops, which were full of them.

181. *ZENAIDA MACULATA* (Vieill.).

♂. Fuerte de Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Aug. 29, 1880.

♀. Monte Grande, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Jan. 5, 1881 (immature).

Iris sepia.

I saw great numbers in the vineyards and Lucerne fields of Andalgalá; but they are common likewise in the province of Buenos Aires.

The nest, very shallow, is usually built in the fork of a tree and constructed of twigs, but so thin that the eggs can be perceived through the sides.

Two eggs in a clutch, and of a pure spotless white.

Meas.: axis 28 mill., diam. 21·5 mill.

182. *COLUMBULA PICUI* (Temm.).

♂ ♀. Flores, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 2, 1881.

Iris lilac.

Met with commonly all over the Republic. Nest built of twigs in the forks of trees. Eggs of a pure spotless white, and two in a clutch.

Meas.: axis 52 mill., diam. 17 mill.

183. *CHAMÆPELIA TALPACOTI* (Temm.).

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 9, 1880.

♀. " " " Nov. 13, 1880.

Iris crimson.

These pretty chocolate-coloured Doves fly in pairs, and at this date were found constructing their nests in the orange-groves: they are sometimes seen on the ground busily in quest of seeds, but are very wild and not at all common. I shot specimens at Concepcion, Misiones, in the month of June; but they were rare there.

184. *LEPTOPTILA MEGALURA*, Scl. & Salv. P. Z. S. 1879, p. 640 (?).

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 18, 1880.

♀. Guazan, Andalgalá, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., Sept. 5, 1880.

This pretty Pigeon, whose habitat is chiefly mountainous districts, is not very abundant at Guazan (4000 feet above sea-level), and when flying makes a peculiar fine metallic whirring with its wings.

Its flight is very limited and close to the ground; it rarely settles

on a tree. It is very wild, and as it runs swiftly amongst the brushwood is difficult to shoot. At Oran, where, however, they are by no means plentiful, I shot them in an orange-grove.

185. *PENELOPE PILEATA*, Wagl.

♂. Sierras de Totoral, Catamarca, Arg. Rep., July 30, 1880.

Iris brown.

Very common in Oran and the Gran Chaco, and met with as far south as the sierras of Totoral. Four or five are usually found together on the same tree, in the midst of the densest forests, where they seek the highest branches. Their notes, which are extremely deceptive as to distance, consist of very harsh, deafening, grating, metallic sounds, resembling the creaking of an ungreased double-handed saw through a block of hard timber. On these birds I had to rely chiefly for food on my travels in the north of the Republic; and when young they make no despicable dish; but when old their flesh is too tough to masticate, though it does well for soup.

186. *ORTALIDA GUTTATA* (Spix).

♂. Sauce Redondo, Salta, Arg. Rep., Oct. 17, 1880.

Iris sepia.

These Guans are abundant in the forests of the north of the Republic.

187. *GALLINULA GALEATA* (Licht.).

♂. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 17, 1881.

Iris reddish-brown.

Abundant on the lagoons in the province of Buenos Aires. Wattle at the base of the beak a deep orange-colour, and legs slaty green.

188. *PARRA JACANA* (Linn.).

♂. Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Nov. 1, 1881.

A rare bird in Buenos Aires, but common in the north of the Republic, especially on the swampy plains of Tucuman.

189. *VANELLUS CAYENNENSIS* (Gm.).

♂. Rio Lujan, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., March 7, 1881.

♀. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 18, 1881.

Iris crimson.

This Plover, whose native name is "Teru-Tero," is very common all over the camps of the province of Buenos Aires, but at the same time found throughout the Republic; and in the breeding-season, which is now (October) at its height, annoys the sportsman by its shrill screeching cry, by circling round his head, and by shamming wounded, in order to attract his attention. Its nest is carefully concealed in the grass, and consists of a mere shallow hollow; but it may be easily discovered when sheep are driven over the land, as then the bird may be seen standing in front of its nest, and flapping its wings violently to make the birds part and pass on either

side. The clutch consists of three eggs; and a remarkable circumstance in connexion with them is, that when they become heavy with young all their points are directed inwards to a common centre.

The eggs, of a very elongated pear-shaped form, have a ground of a warm stone-colour, sprinkled over with jet-black spots, which cluster somewhat thickly round the blunt end.

Meas.: axis 50 mill., diam. 36 mill.

The eggs form a favourite dish with the natives, and are very delicate.

190. *CHARADRIUS VIRGINICUS*, Borkh.

♀. Punta Lara, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 22, 1881.

Iris dark.

Common in the province of Buenos Aires.

191. *ÆGIALITIS COLLARIS* (Vieill.).

♀. Punta Lara, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 18, 1881.

Iris sepia.

This bird seems rather rare.

192. *HIMANTOPUS BRASILIENSIS*, Brehm.

♀. Punta Lara, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 23, 1881.

Iris crimson.

Met with in flocks abundantly about the lagoons of Buenos Aires.

193. *GAMBETTA MELANOLEUCA* (Gm.).

♂. Pacheco, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., March 15, 1881.

Shot in the extensive swamps here.

194. *RHYNCHOPS NIGRA*, Linn.

♀. Monte Grande, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 4, 1882.

Iris brown.

This bird is by no means common in Buenos Aires; but a pair was seen skimming along the surface of a lagoon at excessive speed.

195. *STERNA SUPERCILIARIS*, Vieill.

♀. Itapua, Misiones, Arg. Rep., July 18, 1881.

Iris brown.

Of these, three or four were observed wheeling about over the river Saimá, about a league up it from the Paraná. They have a sprawling, quick flight, settling now and again on the rocks on the edge of the river. Dashing down and skimming the water, they dip every now and again for fish, after which they rise high in the air.

196. *LARUS MACULIPENNIS*, Licht.

♂. Punta Lara, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 19, 1881.

♀. Pacheco, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., March 16, 1881.

♀. Salto, Buenos Aires, Arg. Rep., Oct. 17, 1881.

Iris dark brown.

At Punta Lara as well as Salto—in fact all over the province of Buenos Aires this Gull is found in abundance, flying in flocks.

197. *PODICEPS ROLLANDI*, Q. et G.

Alto Parana, Misiones, Arg. Rep., Feb. 12, 1880.

This rare Grebe was obtained by a friend of mine on the Alto Parana, on the Paraguayan coast. Further particulars I cannot give.

198. *TACHYBAPTUS DOMINICUS* (Linn.).

♀. Punta Lara, B. Aires, Arg. Rep., Feb. 23, 1881.

Iris brown.

These birds are common in the lagoons of the province of Buenos Aires.

199. *CRYPTURUS CINEREUS* (Gm.).

♂. Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 19, 1880.

Iris orange.

This bird, like the rest of the family, is difficult, nay almost impossible, to put up without a dog. I shot it outside the cultivated lands as it was scampering along in the midst of brushwood.

200. *CRYPTURUS TATAUPA* (Temm.).

♀. Campo Colorado, Oran, Salta, Arg. Rep., Nov. 4, 1880.

Iris brown.

Shot in the extremely dense forest as it was running about and scarcely visible amidst the very thick undergrowth. I afterwards saw three or four more during my residence in Oran.

201. *NOTHURA MACULOSA* (Temm.).

♂ ♀. Concepcion, Misiones, Arg. Rep., June 22, 1881.

Iris dark.

These birds, as well as *Phleoptynx cunicularia*, partake of the colour of the soil, which throughout Misiones is of a ferruginous clay, and differ herein completely from those of the province of Buenos Aires. They are so extremely tame and abundant on the fine undulating grass-lands that extend hence southwards, that in the early morning they come right up to the houses, and the boys knock them over with stones; but most certainly this is their northern limit in Misiones, as above this point there is nothing but dense forest.

The egg, which is of a deep purple chocolate, is elongated and rather acutely pointed at both ends.

Meas.: axis 45 mill., diam. 31 mill.

November 14, 1882.

Prof. Flower, LL.D., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

The Secretary read the following reports on the additions made to the Society's Menagerie during the months of June, July, August, September, and October, 1882:—

The total number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of June was 114, of which 40 were by birth, 52 by presentation, 8 by purchase, 2 by exchange, and 12 were received on deposit. The total number of departures during the same period by death and removals was 93.

Amongst these I beg leave to call attention to the New-Caledonian Parrakeet received from Mr. E. L. Layard, June 28th, of which I exhibit a drawing by Mr. Smit (Plate XLVI.).

Dr. Finsch (Papag. ii. p. 274) has united this New-Caledonian species (described by Verreaux and Des Murs, Rev. et Mag. de Zool. 1860, p. 387, under the name *Cyanorhamphus saisseti*) with *C. novæ zelandiæ*.

I agree, however, with Canon Tristram¹ that the New-Caledonian species is distinct. It differs from its New-Zealand representative in its larger size, and in the yellow colouring of the under surface, and when the two birds are exhibited side by side, as they now are in our Parrot-house, seems to be very easily recognizable.

The registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of July were 282 in number; of these 198 were acquired by presentation, 57 by purchase, 1 by exchange, 21 by birth, and 5 were received on deposit. The total number of departures during the same period by death and removals was 114.

The most noticeable additions during the month were:—

1. A young male African Elephant (*Elephas africanus*), purchased July 8th.

This animal is supposed to be from three to four years old. At the time of purchase it was about 4 ft. 2 in. in height, and weighed 788 pounds.

2. A Kolbe's Vulture (*Gyps kolbii*) from South Africa, purchased July 15th, being the first example of this species of Vulture that we have received.

3. A Heloderm Lizard (*Heloderma suspectum*) from Arizona, presented by Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., F.R.S., F.Z.S., July 16th.

This Lizard, which is new to the Collection, is remarkable as belonging to the only positively known venomous form of the Lacertian Order. It has been ascertained by actual experiment that its bite is fatal to small mammals (see below, p. 631).

The total number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of August was 160; of these 97 were ac-

¹ 'Ibis,' 1882, p. 525.



J. Smith lith

Hall, Hart, imp

CYANORHAMPHUS SAISSETI







CANIS MICROTIS

quired by presentation, 48 by purchase, 2 by birth, and 13 were received on deposit. The total number of departures during the same period by death and removals was 95.

A pair of young River-Hogs (*Potamochoerus africanus*) from Zulu Land, presented by Col. J. H. Bowker, F.Z.S., and Mr. John Dunn, and received August 28th. These are a very interesting addition to the Society's series of Suidæ.

The total number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of September was 148; of these 81 were acquired by presentation, 33 by purchase, 7 by exchange, 6 were bred in the Gardens, and 21 were received on deposit. The total number of departures during the same period by death and removals was 87.

The most interesting acquisitions of the month were:—

1. An example of a species of *Canis*, said to have been received from the Amazons, and remarkable for its short coat and short ears. Being unable to identify this peculiar animal with any described form, I have given it the provisional name of the Short-eared Fox (*Canis microtis*).

Mr. Smit's sketch (Plate XLVII.) will give a general idea of this *Canis*, which can only be accurately described after death. It stands about 14 inches high over the shoulders; the body from the nose to the rump is about 30 in. in length and the tail 12 in. The short close fur is generally of a dark iron-grey, the hairs being whitish below and tipped with black; the legs, feet, and tail are darker, nearly black; the ears are short and pale rufous inside and out; the snout is of a darker rufous.

2. A cock and two hens of Elliot's Pheasant (*Phasianus ellioti*), from China, purchased of the Jardin d'Acclimation of Paris, September 27th. These are young birds, bred in France, and are the first specimens of this fine Pheasant that have reached us.

3. Eight Lemurs from Madagascar were received on deposit, September 30th. These animals belong to a species of *Chirogaleus* new to our Collection, apparently to *C. coquereli* (Poll. et v. Dam).

The total number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of October was 121, of which 4 were by birth, 71 by presentation, 39 by purchase, 1 by exchange, and 6 on deposit. The total number of departures during the same period by death and removals was 152.

Mr. Boulenger made the following observations on the subject of the *Heloderma*:—

"A few days after the arrival of the *Heloderma* in the Society's Menagerie, I tried the effects of its poison on a Guinea-pig. The animal was bitten in the leg, and, after two or three minutes, fell into convulsions and died, exactly as if bitten by a Viper. Besides, no doubt could be entertained as to the poisonous nature of the *Heloderma* after the careful investigations recently made by Dr.

J. G. Fischer¹ on the poison-glands of a specimen preserved in spirits. On one occasion, Dr. Fischer tells us that the gentleman who procured the specimen and kept it for some time alive in Mexico, was bitten when handling it, and that the effects were of a very serious character.

"I may add that *Heloderma* is probably not the only poisonous lizard. *Lanthonotus borneensis*, a pretty close ally of this lizard, described four years ago by Dr. Steindachner, exhibits, according to that author, a similar dentition."

Sir Joseph Fayrer made the subjoined remarks on the same subject:—

"On the 31st August, 1882, I was present when the Heloderm bit two Guinea-pigs in the hind leg, at about 9.30 A.M. The bites were viciously inflicted; and the lizard did not readily relinquish its hold. Blood was drawn, the teeth being deeply inserted. Both Guinea-pigs were affected; the bitten limb was dragged and appeared partially paralyzed. There were twitchings of the body generally; but these may not have been due to the poison, but to agitation and fear.

"These creatures seemed partially stupefied and apparently in pain, and ran away when touched, dragging the hind leg, which became swollen and ecchymosed. I watched them for about half an hour; and, beyond the symptoms described, they did not seem deeply affected. They both, however, died in the course of the day.

"Mr. Bartlett wrote to me that both Guinea-pigs died, the larger one about two and a half hours after I saw it; the other at night. The blood taken from the heart and great vessels after death coagulated. This seems to show that there is a poison, but that it cannot be nearly so active or virulent as that of the Cobra. May it not be that the ordinary salivary secretion contains a larger quantity of active principle than that of other lizards, and that all saliva contains a trace of this active principle which is so intensely developed in the Cobra and Viper?"

The Secretary also read the subjoined Report on the insects bred in the Insect-house in the Society's Gardens during the past season, drawn up by Mr. Arthur Thomson, the Superintendent's Assistant:—

Of the silk-producing Bombyces, the following species have been exhibited in the Insect-house during the past season, viz.:—

Samia cecropia.

Attacus cynthia.

— *pernyi.*

— *roylei*

— *mylitta.*

Attacus atlas.

Actias selene.

— *luna.*

Telea promethea.

— *polyphemus.*

I succeeded in obtaining fertile ova of all these species except *Attacus atlas*, *Attacus mylitta*, and *Telea promethea*; but I am exceedingly sorry to have to state that, of the whole of the young

¹ Verh. Nat. Verein, Hamburg, 1882.